1900MNRAS..60..595N

The Partial Eclipse of the Sun, 1900 *May* 28, *observed at Norwich.*

By G. J. Newbegin.

The meteorological conditions in and around Norwich were much better than we were led to expect as the afternoon began. First contact was not visible by reason of clouds, but these soon separated more and more, until that which did look nearly hopeless became quite a success, what cloud there was being rather useful than otherwise in making naked-eye observations.

The Sun's cusps appeared very sharply cut out by the Moon, and the minutes before and after maximum revealed a great decrease of light as one had opportunity to glance at the landscape: a feeble watery light, such as we see sometimes in the shorter days when we look at the Sun through much vapour. *Venus* was noticeable at the maximum, but no other stars.

I was able to expose a series of plates which I think will prove to be a fairly regular sequence of the eclipse as seen here. The first is very faint indeed, because of cloud, my impatience to get something brooking no further delay. The exposure in all cases was $\frac{1}{400}$ sec.

Times of Exposure.

	G.M.T.				G.M.T.		
No.	h	m	s	No.	h	m	s
2	3	0	57	14	4	5	53
4	3	6	24	16	4	14	3
6	3	19	3	18	4	24	53
8	3	34	51	20	4	34	4
10	3	45	36	2	4	46	29
12	3	55	5	24	4	54	0

The eclipse ended at $4^{h}\ 55^{m}\ 5^{s}$ as watched by my eye on the camera focus-plate, the eye seeming still to hold the Moon after contact had ceased, the time I have mentioned being that at which I last saw her. My son noted the time in all cases above mentioned, either as I spoke or clicked the shutter of the camera.

Observations of Capella as a Double Star made at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich.

(*Communicated by the Astronomer Royal.*)

Mr. Newall having called attention to the possibility of securing micrometric measures of the spectroscopic binary *Capella*, Mr. Dyson and Mr. Lewis examined it with the 28-inch refractor on April 4. Both observers agreed that the star was

1900MNRAS..60..595N

elongated. Various coloured shades and eyepieces were used. The elongation appeared to be quite 0″·1.

It was afterwards observed on every available night by several observers, care being taken that the observers should be unbiassed as far as possible. The observation is naturally of a very delicate kind, and large discordances are to be expected, but the change of position angle observed through a large arc of the orbit agrees on the whole well with the calculated change, taking the period as 104 days. With two exceptions the observations were made on the west of the meridian.

The following are the individual measures, with the hour angle at which they were made :—

	d	h		°	′	Hour angle. h
April	4	9	Mr. Dyson	307	0	5 W.
			,, Lewis	286	38	5
	15	7	,, Brookes	264	30	3½
		7½	,, Dyson	263	30	4
		8	,, Lewis	256	5	4½
	16	8	,, Dyson	269	0	4½
		8	,, Bowyer	251	20	4½
	19	9½	,, Lewis	255	22	6
		9½	,, Bowyer	240	20	6
	20	8	,, Melotte	235	33	5
		8¼	,, Furner	241	3	5¼
		8½	,, Dyson	242	20	5½
		8½	,, Lewis	237	22	5½
		8¾	,, Bowyer	236	40	5¾
	23	8	,, Lewis	245	27	5
	24	8¼	,, Bryant	226	16	5¼
	25	8	,, Bowyer	232	45	5
			,, Furner	233	29	5
	26	8	,, Lewis	240	38	5
		8½	,, Bartlett	235	10	5½
		8¾	,, Hollis	227	0	6 W.
	28	noon	,, Bryant	206	58	3 E.
May	1	7½	,, Bryant	197	16	5 W.
	2	8	,, Lewis	229	10	5½
		8½	,, Bartlett	230	0	6
	3	7½	,, Bowyer	229	37	5
	7	8¼	,, Bowyer	219	10	6
	10	8¼	,, Bowyer	216	45	6¼
			,, Furner	219	59	6¼
	11	7¾	,, Bowyer	216	0	5¾
	17	5	,, Bryant	139	0	3½
	29	7½	,, Bryant	95	20	6½ W.

Royal Observatory, Greenwich:
1900 *June* 8.

1900MNRAS..60..595N

[Further observations made since June 8.]

June 19	19	Mr. Bryant	14 0	4¼ E.	
20	2¾	„ Bryant	20 47	3½ W.	
	3¼	„ Furner	20 45	4	
	3¾	„ Witchell	20 15	4½]	

Note on a Meteoric Shower south of Corvus. By W. F. Denning.

In the region between *Corvus* and *Centaurus* there appears to be a well-defined radiant point of meteors at the April epoch. While watching for the *Lyrids* in 1898 April 12–23, Professor A. S. Herschel at Slough recorded about ten slow-moving meteors directed from a centre at 189°–27°, 5° S. of *β Corvi*. Two of the meteors were seen at other stations (Leicester and Bristol), and their real paths were computed. In April of the present year a few more of the *Corvids* appeared, and one of them visible on April 21 at 10^{h} 31^{m} was registered at three stations, viz. Slough, Wallingford, and Leicester. The heights, &c., of the several objects observed in 1898 and 1900 were as under :—

Date.	Time.	Mag.	Height at first.	Height at last.	Path.	Velocity.	Radiant.
1898.	h m		Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	° °
April 16	10 48	1	60	48	91	24	189 – 31
17	10 28	4	72	70	34	23	176 – 35*
1900. April 21	10 31	3	60	54	50	17	188 – 32

Radiants in nearly the same position appear to have been previously determined as follow :—

1869. Jan. 21–Feb. 23	° ° 188 – 26	8 meteors. Derived by W. F. D. from Tupman's observations in the Mediterranean.
1858-63. March	192 – 38	Heis. Derived from Neumayer's observations at Melbourne.
April	194 – 30	

The first observation of the shower seems therefore to have been about forty years ago, and it must be regarded as forming a strong display in recent times, or it would never have attracted attention at places in the northern hemisphere where the altitude of the radiant when on the meridian is less than 10°.

In various years since 1873 I have noted a few of these April

---

* This position is probably quite 10° west of the correct centre, and may represent a different shower.